

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1571
ANSWERED ON:11.03.2008
FLOOD AND EROSION IN ASSAM
Sarma Dr. Arun Kumar

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the total loss incurred due to flood and erosion in Assam since 2004 in terms of life, property including land area, crops, animals, roads, bridges and embankments till December 2007;
- (b) the total entitlement year-wise, amount demanded and actually disbursed to the State from CRF, NCCF and other sources during the same period alongwith the amount utilized and unspent balance thereof;
- (c) the total number of families who have become landless and homeless alongwith the number of families rehabilitated year-wise by the State Government;
- (d) the pending liabilities if any, from either side; and
- (e) the additional assistance granted by the Centre during the above period?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS(SMT. RADHIKA V. SELVI)

(a) to (e): As per information received from the Government of Assam, based on their provisional assessment, the details of damage caused due to floods since 2004 in the State are as under:-

Years	No.of humanliveslost	No.ofcattle headslost	No of houses/hutsdamaged	Cropped area affected (lakh hectares)
2004-05	448	2256	589064	12.58
2005-06	27	735	0.33	
2006-07	7	20	2367	0.11
2007-08	142	1660	414444	6.75

The State Governments are primarily responsible for undertaking necessary relief measures in the wake of natural disasters. The distribution of relief on ground is also the responsibility of the concerned State. The Government of India supplements the efforts of the State Governments by providing financial and logistic support, where necessary. Such support is in accordance with the norms based on the recommendations of the Finance Commissions. As per prescribed items/ norms, the CRF/ NCCF should be used, to meet the expenditure for providing immediate relief and rehabilitation to the victims of the listed natural calamities viz.; avalanches, cloud burst, cyclone, drought, earthquake/ tsunami, fire, flood, hailstorm, landslides and pest attacks. The norms and guidelines inter-alia provide assistance for damage to crops, damage to houses, gratuitous relief, medical aid, provision for utensils/ clothing, loss of animals, assistance for feed, fodder to animals and ex-gratia payment to families of deceased persons. The farmers are also entitled for compensation under the National Agricultural Insurance Scheme of the Ministry of Agriculture, which is being implemented by the State Government.

Expenditure on rehabilitation of families who are rendered landless due to erosion caused by floods is not covered under the guidelines of the scheme of CRF/ NCCF. The concerned State Government is, therefore, required to meet such expenditure from its own resources/ re-allocation of Plan funds. Similarly, assistance as per the approved norms is provided under the Scheme of CRF/NCCF to those people whose houses are damaged due to these natural calamities. The rehabilitation of people who are rendered homeless due to floods etc. is also required to be undertaken by the concerned State Government from its own resources/re-allocation of Plan funds.

The allocation and release of Central share of Calamity Relief Fund (CRF) and funds released from National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF) during the years 2004-05 to 2007-08, to the State of Assam are as under:-

(Rs. in crore)				
Year	Allocation under CRF	Central share	Center's share of CRF released	Released from NCCF
2004-05	123.36	92.52	92.52	211.55
2005-06	193.06	144.79	144.79	0.00
2006-07	198.62	148.97	148.97	0.00
2007-08	204.48	153.36	153.36	0.00
(as on 7th March 08)				

Total:- 719.52 539.64 539.64 211.55

The State Government of Assam has submitted memorandum seeking additional Central assistance from NCCF for relief operations in the areas affected by floods during the year 2007. Upon receipt of the memorandum, an Inter-Ministerial Central Team has visited the State during 5th -7th December 2007, for an on the spot assessment of damage and requirement of funds. The report of the Central Team has since been received and processed. Certain clarifications have been sought from the State Government, which are still awaited. On receipt of clarifications, the request of the State Government will be placed before Inter Ministerial Group and High Level Committee for consideration and approval of additional Central assistance from NCCF. However, the entire Central share of CRF amounting to Rs.153.36 crore for the year 2007-08 has already been released to Assam.